

Letters from Unions

AMALGAMATED MEAT CUTTERS AND RETAIL FOOD STORE
EMPLOYEES UNION OF GREATER NEW YORK

LOCAL 342 - AFL-CIO

186-18 HILLSIDE AVE. • JAMAICA, N. Y. 11432



*x90280
35*

April 10th, 1968

United Farm Workers, AFL-CIO
73 Tremont Street
Boston, Massachusetts

Dear Sirs and Brother:

Enclosed find copy of letter that Mrs. Dolores Huerta asked
we send to you.

The letter which is self-explanatory was sent to the retail
food chains in metropolitan New York.

With every good wish for success in your endeavors, I am

Fraternally yours,

Irving Stern

Irving Stern
Director of Organization

is:ah
opeiu:153

Greater New York Labor Food Council

265 West 14th Street, New York, N. Y. 10011
Watkins 9-5582-3-4

Irving Stern
President
Arthur Wolfson
Secretary-Treasurer

March 5th, 1968

Executive Board

Nickolas Abondola
Local 342

Joseph Bottiglieri
Local 489

Frank De Vito
Local 1245

Albert Di Prospe
Local 400

Patrick Gleeson
Local 1500

Sidney Heller
Local 888

Irving Kaplan
Local 464

Wm. A. McLaughlin
Local 1262

George Meisler
Local 21

Julius Sum
Local 338

George Surtes
Local 305

Leo Young
Local 169

Patrick Reape
Local 474

John Dowd
Local 1111

Joseph Belsky
Local 234

Al Specht
Local 60

Mr. Melvin Levy
H. C. Bohack Co., Inc.
48-25 Metropolitan Avenue
Brooklyn, New York

Dear Mr. Levy:

Enclosed is a letter which we have sent to Joseph Giumarra regarding the California strike.

We have been advised that the United Farm Workers, backed by the AFL-CIO, intends to launch a consumer boycott against California grapes with the exception of DiGiorgio which is under contract with the United Farm Workers.

In order to avoid picketing of your stores by the United Farm Workers, which would embarrass every retail food union in New York committed to support the AFL-CIO, we would urge that you contact your distributor of California grapes so as to advise him of the predicament he is placing you in with regard to this product.

We know of your concern in this matter and we hope you will actively intervene to help settle the dispute before the grape season starts.

We await your response to this letter.

Very truly yours,

Irving Stern
Irving Stern
President

Arthur Wolfson
Arthur Wolfson
Secretary-Treasurer

Greater New York Labor Food Council

265 West 14th Street, New York, N. Y. 10011

WAtkins 9-5582-3-4

March 4th, 1968

Irving Stern
President
Arthur Wolfson
Secretary-Treasurer

Mr. Joseph Giumarra
Edison, California

Executive Board

Nickolas Abondola
Local 342

Joseph Bottiglieri
Local 489

Frank De Vito
Local 1245

Albert Di Prospero
Local 400

Patrick Gleeson
Local 1500

Sidney Heller
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Local 305

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Local 169

Patrick Reape
Local 474

John Dowd
Local 1111

Joseph Belsky
Local 234

Al Specht
Local 60

Dear Sir:

It has been called to our attention that your employees are on strike as a result of the refusal of your company to provide decent wages, working conditions and union recognition.

As representatives of over 125,000 retail food store employees in the City of New York, with contracts with both small and large supermarkets, we are very much disturbed by this report. We are told further, that as a result of the bitterness developing from the strike many of the workers are being persecuted and jailed. We find this type of relationship with workers deplorable and obnoxious to all decent minded Americans.

We must tell you in all frankness, that unless a way is found to resolve this dispute so that the farm workers can enjoy their God-given right to belong to a union and to work with a fair wage and working conditions, it is our intention to support the consumer boycott against all California grapes which emanate from struck growers.

We urge you to give due consideration to the ruinous harm which will result to your industry should grapes but shut out as a result of the consumer boycott.

Frankly speaking, we think there is a better way of dealing with disputes and that way is the way of meetings, discussion and resolving conflict. We hope that you will see it in this light. Should you not however, then the responsibility for ruining the California grape industry will fall on you and those of your associates who persist in fighting people who are basically decent and want only the same dignity that you and we strive for in this life.

We look forward to a reply to this letter indicating movement toward recognition of the rights of these men and women who belong to the United Farm Workers.

Very truly yours,

Irving Stern
Irving Stern
President

Arthur Wolfson
Arthur Wolfson
Secretary-Treasurer